(b) if so, how much time new terminal building, aerobridges and expansion of apron is likely to take; and

(c) what budgetary allocations have been made to meet development, expansion and facilities of aerobridges etc. during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction of new Terminal Building at a cost of Rs. 145.54 crores to handle 800 passengers, at a time, with all modern facilities including two aerobridges have been planned at this airport for completion in March, 2010. Expansion of apron to accommodate additional aircraft parking stands has already been completed in June, 2008 at a cost of Rs. 14.97 crores.

(c) Total capital budget provision for development of Bhubaneswar airport in the current Financial Year RE 2008-09 is Rs. 14.24 crores.

Construction of helipads and runways in Uttarakhand

†714. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Uttarakhand where his Ministry is planning to construct helipads and runways which can be used by private airlines and chartered planes for the tourists and by the ambulance helicopters for extending relief during emergency alongwith the time by when the same would be completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) No request has been received, in the recent past, either from the State Government of Uttarakhand or airline operators for constructing new airstrip/Helipads or upgrading the existing airstrips in the State.

Facilities for the passengers with special needs

715. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a 'contact zone' has been set up at Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) Delhi for passengers with special needs;

(b) if so, whether the facilities like wheelchairs for disabled and assistance for unaccompanied minors will be provided free of charge;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to set up such 'contact zone' at various Airports in the country especially in Himachal Pradesh where tourists are often found complaining about these facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.